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ACTION NEA-01

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-01	CEA-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	COME-00
	CTME-00	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	ITCE-00	ANHR-01	EAP-01
	EB-01	EXME-00	OIGO-01	E-00	FRB-01	H-01	TEDE-00
	INR-00	IO-16	ITC-01	LAB-01	L-01	ADS-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-02	PM-00	PRS-01
	P-01	SCT-03	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SSO-00	SS-00
	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	FMP-00	PMB-00	PRM-10
	DRL-09	G-00	/060W				

-----712B4A 121136Z /38

R 121131Z SEP 94  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4042  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
AMEMBASSY KIGALI

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 014664

DEPT. FOR G, H, USUN FOR BLANEY

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: PREF, PREL, EAID, EFIN, RW,  
SUBJECT: WIRTH/BILNEY BILATERAL: AUSTRALIAN  
VIEWS ON RWANDA

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 14664 01 OF 02 121132Z  
1. SUMMARY. ON THE MARGINS OF THE ICPD,  
AUSTRALIAN MINISTER FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE  
GORDON BILNEY BRIEFED U/S WIRTH AND SENATOR  
JOHN KERRY (D-MA) SEPTEMBER 9 ON HIS SEPTEMBER  
5-7 TRIP TO RWANDA AND TANZANIA (U/S WIRTH WILL  
BE VISITING RWANDA NEXT WEEK). HE FEARS  
CONDITIONS AT THE BENAKO CAMP WILL DETERIORATE  
RAPIDLY ONCE RAINS BEGIN, AND SAID AN URGENT,  
UNMET NEED IS FOR DONORS (PREFERABLY  
MULTILATERAL) TO UNDERWRITE GOR CURRENT  
EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS TO PAY SALARIES FOR

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CIVIL SERVANTS IN KEY POSITIONS. HE REPORTED  
THAT RADIO BROADCASTING IS STILL SPOTTY DUE TO  
FREQUENT BLACKOUTS AND ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS.  
INITIAL FEEDBACK ON PERFORMANCE OF ETHIOPIAN  
PEACEKEEPING FORCES IS POSITIVE. END SUMMARY.

BENAKO CAMP CONDITIONS BLEAK; KIGALI BETTER  
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2. AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE MINISTER  
GORDON BILNEY MET WITH U/S WIRTH AND SENATOR  
KERRY (D-MA) SEPTEMBER 9 TO DISCUSS HIS  
RECENTLY COMPLETED TRIP TO RWANDA. U/S WIRTH,  
WHO WILL BE VISITING THE REGION NEXT WEEK,  
WELCOMED THE UPDATE. BILNEY REPORTED THAT  
CONDITIONS AT THE BENAKO CAMP ARE GETTING  
WORSE; WATER IS RATIONED TO FIVE LITERS PER DAY  
PER PERSON, AND THE ONE POND SUPPLYING WATER  
FOR OVER 400,000 REFUGEES IS BELIEVED TO NOT BE  
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A RELIABLE SUPPLY. WITH RAINS DUE "ANY TIME,"  
HE SAID THE RISK OF CHOLERA AND DYSENTERY  
OUTBREAKS IS HIGH.

3. KIGALI, HE REPORTED, IS SLOWLY ON THE  
MEND. THERE IS NO STARVATION, FOOD IS  
AVAILABLE IN THE MARKETS, AND URBAN  
TRANSPORTATION IS STARTING BACK UP.  
ELECTRICITY AND WATER SUPPLIES ARE STILL OUT IN  
MANY PARTS OF TOWN, AND MOST BUILDINGS ARE  
SHELLS. KEY MINISTRIES ARE OPERATING WITH A  
MINISTER AND A HANDFUL OF UNPAID STAFF. VICE  
PRESIDENT KEGAME IS THE ONLY REAL ONE IN  
CHARGE; BILNEY DESCRIBED HIM AS COMMITTED TO  
RECONCILIATION BUT OPINED HE WILL HAVE A  
DIFFICULT TIME REINING IN THE IMPULSES OF HIS  
OWN PEOPLE TO AVENGE MASSACRES. BILNEY SAID IT  
WILL BE HARD FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT TO  
PROSECUTE WAR CRIMINALS, BECAUSE HE CAN NOT GO  
AFTER THE TENS OF THOUSANDS WHO MIGHT DESERVE  
PUNISHMENT, WHILE HE MUST PROSECUTE THE 25-30  
INDIVIDUALS BEHIND THE WORST ATROCITIES. HE  
SAID HE WISHED HE COULD DESCRIBE THE SITUATION  
IN TERMS OF ANYTHING BUT UNRELIEVED GLOOM.

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IMMEDIATE NEED: PAY CIVIL SERVANTS

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4. BILNEY CONTINUED THAT WHILE DONORS WERE  
HELPING FINANCE MOST MAJOR AREAS OF  
RECONSTRUCTION AS DEFINED BY THE U.N., HE WAS  
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CONCERNED THAT NO ONE HAD OFFERED TO PICK UP  
SHORT TERM FINANCING OF GOR CIVIL SERVICE. HE  
WAS DISAPPOINTED THE IBRD HAD NOT INCLUDED  
CURRENT EXPENDITURES IN ITS 20 MILLION USD AID  
PACKAGE, AND HE HOPED SOME MULTILATERAL  
ORGANIZATION WOULD QUICKLY AGREE TO HELP OUT IN  
THIS REGARD.

ETHIOPIAN PEACE KEEPERS: HIGH MARKS

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5. AMIDST UNCONFIRMED, SCATTERED REPORTS OF  
SOME RETURNEES FROM THE NGARA CAMP BEING  
VICTIMIZED, BILNEY SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED THAT  
GOR FORCES WERE MOVING VERY SLOWLY INTO THE  
FORMER FRENCH ZONE. U.N. PEACE KEEPER  
REPLACEMENTS FROM ETHIOPIA WERE PRAISED FOR  
THEIR PROFESSIONALISM BY BOTH THE U.N.  
COMMANDER AND AUSTRALIAN NGO WORKERS IN THE  
FIELD. IN A RESPONSE TO A QUESTION BY U/S  
WIRTH, BILNEY SAID NATIONAL RADIO SERVICES ARE  
STILL SPOTTY, MAINLY DUE TO POWER  
IRREGULARITIES. HE NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF  
QUICKLY RESTORING RADIO SERVICE TO COUNTER  
EXTREMIST HUTU BROADCASTS.

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6. BILNEY ALSO SAID HE HAD GOOD NEWS ON  
MOUNTAIN GORILLAS FROM A BRITISH HEALTH TEAM  
THAT HAD SNEAKED VETERINARIANS INTO RWANDA WITH  
THEM. GORILLAS HAD APPARENTLY NOT BEEN  
SLAUGHTERED FOR FOOD; THEY HAD MERELY MIGRATED  
TO A DIFFERENT SECTION OF RAIN FOREST.

7. THIS CABLE HAS NOT BEEN CLEARED BY SENATOR

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KERRY'S STAFF.

8. KIGALI MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. WALKER

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